

**(57) ABSTRACT**

The area of the invention belongs to the transport technologies in UTRAN. There are two transport technologies in use in the transport networks (domains) and the Network Elements in these two different domains need to be able communicate with each other. The baseline for the invention is that the existing ATM/AAL2 network and its 3GPP specifications should be left untouched as much as possible. In UTRAN based on ATM/AAL2 transport there is AAL2 Signalling used as ALCAP. the invention is based on the idea that the existing ALCAP, e.g. Q.2630 is used not only in the ATM/AAL2 domain as an ALCAP, i.e. no changes to the existing specifications, but also as an auxiliary control protocol in the IP transport domain. This is accomplished by using a user defined information element of said existing ALCAP.

**(FIG. 4)**